

Message Text

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17

ACTION SS-25

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O R 160920Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5126

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY 036

C O N F I D E N T I A L NAIROBI 8031

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, XF, EG, KE, US

SUBJECT: DEMARCHE IN SUPPORT EGYPT-ISRAEL AGREEMENT

REF: A. STATE 214848

B. NAIROBI 7918

C. NAIROBI 7956

1. SUMMARY: I CALLED ON ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER BABU WOOD SEPT 16, MADE POINTS CONTAINED PARA 3 REF A ORALLY AND IN TALKING PAPER WHICH I LEFT WITH HIM. I URGED HIM TO CONSIDER GOK PUBLIC MAINFESTATION OF SUPPORT FOR EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI AGREEMENT. WOOD SAID KENYA VIEWED AGREEMENT SYMPATHETICALLY BUT QUESTION OF PUBLIC EXPRESSION OF SUPPORT NOT LIKELY TO BE ADDRESSED UNTIL RETURN OF FONMIN WAIYAKI FROM NEW YORK ON SEPTEMBER 26. END SUMMARY.

2. I MENTIONED TO WOOD THAT I HAD BEEN IN TOUCH WITH EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR AND WAS AWARE OF LATTER'S DEMARCHE
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SEPT 12 (REFS B AND C). MY OWN GOVERNMENT HAD IN-

STRUCTURED ME TO CONVEY TO GOK OUR VIEW ON IMPORTANCE OF EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI AGREEMENT AND TO POINT OUT NEED TO SUPPORT EGYPT IN LIGHT OF CRITICISM OF ITS POSITION. THESE INSTRUCTION, RECEIVED LAST WEEK, WERE ESPECIALLY TIMELY WITH REPORTS OF TERRORIST ACTION AGAINST EGYPTIAN EMBASSY IN SPAIN. I THEN WENT THROUGH TALKING POINTS AND

HANDED COPY OF TALKING PAPER TO WOOD. I EXPRESSED HOPE THAT GOK WOULD CONSIDER PUBLIC DEMONSTRATION OF ITS SUPPORT FOR THIS LANDMARK AGREEMENT, THE FIRST ARRIVED AT BY OTHER THAN MILITARY MEANS.

3. WOOD RESPONDED BY PRAISING AGREEMENT AS ACT OF STATESMANSHIP WHICH WAS CONSISTENT WITH KENYA'S DESIRE NOT TO SEE ANY MORE BLOODSHED ON AFRICAN CONTINENT. KENYA FELT SADAT AND ISRAELI LEADERS HAD MADE AN IMPORTANT STEP FOR HUMANITY. AS FELLOW MEMBER OF OAU, KENYA WELCOMED EGYPT'S ACHIEVEMENT. GOK ALSO UNDERSTOOD--DESPITE LACK OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL--THAT AGREEMENT HAD INVOLVED SACRIFICE ON ISRAEL'S PART. WOOD FELT AGREEMENT WOULD GO DOWN IN HISTORY, BUT ONLY TIME WOULD TELL WHETHER IT WAS PROFOUND STEP OR MERELY EXTENSION OF MILITARY CEASE-FIRE. HE ASSURED ME THAT SEC. KISSINGER, GOI AND GOE HAD ACHIEVED SOMETHING ADMIRABLE FOR MANKIND.

4. WOOD CONTINUED THAT OTHER COUNTRIES MIGHT HAVE DIFFERENT ASSESSMENTS OF AGREEMENT. KENYA'S ATTITUDE WAS BASED ON FACT THAT IT WELCOME RETURN OF TERRITORY TO RIGHTFUL OWNER. KENYA COULD NOT ACCEPT CLAIMS BY ONE STATE FOR TERRITORY OF ANOTHER STATE IN CONTRAVENTION OF ESTABLISHED BORDERS. (COMMENT: THIS WAS CLEARLY REFERENCE TO KENYA'S CONCERN OVER SOMALI IRREDENTIST CLAIMS ON NORTHEAST KENYA). IN RESPONSE TO MY QUERY ABOUT LIKELIHOOD OF GOK PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR AGREEMENT, WOOD SAID FONMIN WAIYAKI WAS MORE INFORMED ABOUT SUCH THINGS AND NO DECISION ON PUBLIC STATEMENT WOULD BE TAKEN UNTIL WAIYAKI'S RETURN FROM NEW YORK ON SEPTEMBER 26.

5. ALTHOUGH NO FORMAL PUBLIC STATEMENT LIKELY IN WAIYAKI'S ABSENCE, MFA PRESS OFFICER WAS PRESENT DURING CONFIDENTIAL

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OUR CONVERSATION AND IT IS POSSIBLE THAT SYNOPSIS OF WOOD'S FAVORABLE REMARKS ON EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI AGREEMENT MAY APPEAR IN LOCAL PRESS TOMORROW.
MARSHALL

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